

ELECTRONICS EXCHANGE

For Sale: Icom IC-740 HF transceiver with internal power supply, 500 Hz CW filter, FM unit, calibration marker. All ham bands, 100 watts output. \$500. Call Mort Cohan, KALIU, at 359-7979.

For Sale: Drake R4B receiver, T4XB transmitter, AC4 power supply and MS4 speaker. Complete, all in top condition with manuals and a complete spare set of tubes. \$300 for all. Contact Dick Weissel, WA1HRV, 655-2366.

For Sale: Yaesu FT101E HF transceiver. Used only a few hours. Asking \$1000. Contact Sal Astuccio, 26 Skyline Drive, Franklin, MA 02038. Phone 528-6179 or 528-3111.

Free: (or for club donation) Hornet triband beam, full size 10, 15 and 20 meters. Three elements, complete with baluns, traps, etc. Working and in use when replaced. Operated OK with CDE rotator. Contact Al Graff, W1OQP, 235-1538.

Events

April 26-27: Museum of Science Amateur Radio exhibit, Boston.

May 10: Hosstraders Swapfest, Deerfield, NH.

June 14-15: ARRL VHF QSO Party.

June 28-29: Field Day.

October 18-19: New England ARRL Convention, Boxboro, MA.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Whenever you renew your ARRL membership be sure to do it through the club. To do this, send your completed membership form to the Wellesley ARS at the club address or bring it to the next meeting, and make your check out payable to the Wellesley Amateur Radio Society. We will then make sure that the League gets your application and dues. This way, the club can make \$2 from every member that renews.

Hamnews

A number of Amateurs in the South-eastern states have been cited by the Florida FCC monitoring station for participating in so-called "swap and shop" nets, which, in the view of the monitoring station, violated 97.112. This section states that "an Amateur station shall not be used....for communications for material compensation."

The Commission interprets this section as meaning that "Amateurs may use their stations from time to time to discuss the availability of a piece of Amateur Radio equipment, but that such activity would be limited to an occasional nature. It's best not to discuss price on the air. Instead, swap phone numbers and finish the dickering off the air." (The FCC Rule Book p. 6-10) ARRL discussions with the FCC indicate that the FCC has not changed this interpretation, and that the citations were issued by an individual monitoring officer who interpreted the rule differently.

ARRL Letter, March 14, 1986

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The Spark Gap

Official Journal of the Wellesley Amateur Radio Society



EDITOR:

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FRAMINGHAM, MASS. 01701
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THE "SPARK GAP" IS THE MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE WELLESLEY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY. ITS PRIMARY PURPOSE IS TO KEEP ITS MEMBERS ABREAST OF CURRENT HAPPENINGS, FCC RULES AND REGULATIONS, CHANGES AND TO LIST EQUIPMENT OFFERED FOR SALE OR TRADE BY MEMBERS. MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE "SPARK GAP" AND MAY SEND THEIR ARTICLES TO THE EDITOR. ITEMS PRINTED IN THE "SPARK GAP" MAY BE REPRINTED BY OTHER AMATEUR RADIO PUBLICATIONS PROVIDED THE AUTHOR AND THE "SPARK GAP" ARE GIVEN CREDIT.

THE WELLESLEY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO THE PROMOTION OF AMATEUR RADIO THROUGH INSTRUCTION, FELLOWSHIP, DEMONSTRATION AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF PARTICIPATION. ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP IN THE SOCIETY IS \$10.00. THE CLUB YEAR RUNS FROM SEPTEMBER 1 TO AUGUST 31. AMATEUR NOVICE AND GENERAL CLASSES ARE CONDUCTED REGULARLY AT NO COST. TO ENROLL IN A CLASS, OR GAIN INFORMATION ABOUT THE SOCIETY IN GENERAL, WRITE:

THE WELLESLEY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
211 WASHINGTON STREET
WELLESLEY HILLS, MASS. 02181



MINUTES

Meeting of March 20, 1986:

The meeting was opened at 7:35 p.m. by President Tom Kinahan, N1CPE, with 16 present.

Nominations for officers for the 1986/87 club year were taken.

Vern Valero, N1DSZ, gave an education report. He announced that there are 15 people now signed up for the upcoming General Class.

The remainder of the meeting was devoted to discussing plans for the message fair we will be having as our part of the Museum of Science Amateur Radio exhibit.

The meeting was closed at 9:00 p.m.

FROM THE MAILBAG



The K1IK-1 digipeater co-sponsored by the club has been in operation for several months on a frequency of 145.01 MHz. It seems the current trend is for several of the Packet Bulletin Boards to move to other frequencies. K1BC BBS is now on 145.09 as are digipeaters W1DC and W1EMT. I now understand WORLI is operating on 145.07 MHz. The N1DL BBS does beacon through our digipeater and seems to be staying at .01. The "DL" board contains an active gateway to Europe and has the latest AMSAT information available.

Now the question: what do the members of our club need? Should the digi continue to operate on 145.01 or move to another spot? Should we continue to operate at all?

Let me know how you feel. Leave messages at N1DL BBS or call me at 235-5837 any day 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

73 de Bob, K1IK

Hamnews

Please note that Minute 50 of the January ARRL Board meeting now permits ARRL awards credit, other than for five-band awards, on 24 MHz and on 18 MHz. (No awards credit is allowed on the 10 MHz band because of our secondary status on that band.) Now, who will be the first to work 24 MHz WAS? Field Day ops should also note that Minute 67 now allows Field Day credit for 24 MHz.

ARRL Letter, March 14, 1986

Greenwich Mean Time is gone! The reason? The high cost of maintaining the atomic clocks at the Greenwich Observatory in England. Effective last December, it was replaced by Universal Coordinated Time, kept by some 150 atomic clocks around the world.

ARRL Letter, March 14, 1986

FIELD DAY!

by Bill Hanlon, N1ADY

Plans are now well underway for the 1986 Wellesley club Field Day. This year the dates will be June 28 and 29 which is the last weekend in June.

This will be the 53rd year of this popular ARRL sponsored event. For the benefit of newcomers to Amateur Radio the object of Field Day is to operate under emergency conditions for a continuous 24 hour period. The main purpose is to hone our emergency preparedness skills so that we can better fulfill our public service obligations. But in addition to this, this is an excellent chance to learn contest operating techniques, to learn how to set up and operate different equipment, and last but certainly not least, to have fun and enjoy the camaraderie of our fellow club members.

The site chosen this year is the area behind the Wellesley Town Hall and although there is construction presently going on there the town expects that all work will be done by May. This is a good site because it is so convenient to so many of our members and also because we can get good public exposure. We last operated from this location in 1984. Roger Smith, W1EOA, is in the process of formally requesting permission from the Selectmen to use this site.

Operational plans so far are as follows:

We will run in class 2A. This means we will have two transmitters set up under field conditions using full emergency power.

We will also run a Novice station. This is a "free" station in that it is not counted in the number of transmitters we operate but we do get to include the points earned in our overall score. More importantly though, here is a chance for our newer Novices to get on the air and gain some operating experience while having lots of people around to answer questions and provide

"Elmer" type assistance.

We are also planning to earn all the bonus points we can. (Bonus points are earned by conducting certain specified activities and are add-ons to our QSO score.) Included here will be a packet operation, an Oscar satellite station, a non-fossil fuel station, as well as credit for message traffic handling and getting publicity. Each of these activities is worth 100 extra points.

As you can see there's something here for everyone so mark your calendars -- June 28 & 29. Like those other FCC licensees say "Let's all be there."

Public Service

The Public Meets Ham Radio

by Bob Salow, W1LIDA

Amateur Radio at the Science Museum, April 26 and 27, 1986! This outstanding opportunity to present Amateur Radio to visitors at the Museum of Science in Boston has enthusiastic support from the Museum, ARRL and hams all over New England. But enthusiasm is not enough. Hands-on help is needed for many functions to make the exhibit a success.

The project will present several areas of Amateur Radio with an emphasis on visitor participation. Our goals are to increase awareness and understanding of Amateur Radio, and to encourage the creation of new hams. As many as 15,000 visitors can be expected on that weekend, half of whom will be children of the right age for introduction to the ham radio hobby.

Each area is organized by an Exhibit Leader. Please call the Leader of the exhibit that interests you most. It is not necessary that you be active in that area. Your general ham knowledge and your willingness to work with the visitors are what really count. There are many overall exhibit tasks that are vital. If you do not want to specialize, then call the

Pat Couture, NICKN, 488-8144

radio message network, to reach me at just the right moment of my day. I'm sorry that I don't remember your name but your voice and your kindness I'll never forget. When you are talking to all your friends, please tell them that their kindness and caring made Christmas a brighter time for me. Your act of caring is truly what Christmas is all about. God bless you all". (from Cape Cod Standard Times, 1/7/86)

Just what is traffic handling, how do you get a message from here to there, how is the message delivered, are questions that go through ones mind. Well, let's start from the beginning and we will try to cover all bases.

In order to participate in a new hobby called Amateur Radio way back around 1910, Hiram Percy Maxim got Congress to allow us to operate, after stiff opposition from the military, if we would perform a public service with our hobby. That's about when the American Radio Relay League was founded, on the principals of performing a public service. Since that time our hobby has expanded to many other areas, but the basis of our being was based on performing a public service. And the tradition has been passed down from one generation to another with an enviable record of achievement. Emergencies (Remember the blizzard of '78? The Mexico City earthquake? The killer hurricanes over the years?) do arise where we can help with communications. We have also provided communications in other areas like the BAA Marathon, the Tall Ships when they were in Boston, the Olympic Games in California, etc. The list goes on and on. And, those of us who participated in these events, have warm memories of our accomplishments, never to be forgotten. So traffic handling is our game.

As time evolved, the National Traffic System (NTS) was born. This system would allow anyone to send a non-commercial radiogram to anywhere in the U.S. or Canada, free of charge.

It also meant to those countries that allowed third party traffic but since they have no traffic system as we know it, it might be a little difficult to get a message delivered. The NTS set up different levels of communications, the Section Net where you could start off by sending your message locally, (our section net comprises Eastern Mass and Rhode Island), a Region Net where all New England states send a representative, or liaison station as we term them, and an Area Net.

Now lets set up three messages, one going to Pawtucket, R.I., one going to Bangor, Maine and the other going to San Francisco. We check into a local traffic net and declare our traffic as "Pawtucket R.I. 1, through 2 (because the other two are going beyond the section's limits). A station on the section net says he can handle Pawtucket and you send it, he delivers it. The other two are given to a liaison station who takes all the out-bound traffic to the next net, the First Region Net and declares traffic for Maine 1, through 1 (because the San Francisco message is going outside of the first region net). Net Control sends you off with the Maine rep. and you send him your Bangor message and that's that. All through traffic is again given to the liaison station that will take this outgoing traffic to the Eastern Area Net, where reps from the 2RN, 3RN, 4RN, 8RN, Central Area Net, Pacific Area, and Eastern Canada Net all congregate to pass off their traffic. So our liaison station declares his traffic as Pacific 1 (because it is going out to the West Coast) and you go off frequency and pass your message. Later on, these reps will again meet on the down cycle of NTS and take the traffic they received to their Regional Net, then the liaison station will take traffic from there down to the Section Net where a ham will take the message for delivery. The times these nets meet are staggered in order to have a smooth flow, up and down each cycle, so your message, put into the section traffic

net would be out in San Francisco in about three hours or so.

(Next month in Part 2 Jim will explain how to properly write up a message, check into a net with it and how to deliver a message.)

education corner



by Vern Valero, N1DSZ

The General Class will be held at Babson College, thanks to the efforts of Bob, KTIK. This got us out of a bind because there is a fairly large number of people who want to take the class.

DATE: April 7 to June 23

TIME: 7 PM to 9:30 PM

PLACE: Babson College, Wellesley

The class will consist of code practice and technical lectures. The lectures will be given by various members of the club. There are a few nights open for teaching. Please contact me if you would enjoy teaching one of those nights. We are particularly desperate for someone to take the first night, which is rules and regulations.

Thanks to those folks who have already volunteered their time to teach in the General class. It is this team spirit that enables us to carry on a successful education program

We would like very much to organize an ARRL VEC sponsored exam session to coincide with the end of the General class. This is possible because WARS has members who are VEC qualified. The exam will be conducted in the last week of June.

Three volunteer examiners are needed to coordinate and conduct the test session. The individuals must hold an Extra license and be certified by the ARRL VEC. If you hold Extra and would like to become qualified, please write to the ARRL and request the certification materials. The process involves

reading the VEC booklet, taking an open book test, sending it to the ARRL, and waiting for the official word. There is still time left to apply!

We could also use the aid of people who are non-certified as "helpers". These folks can conduct a 2 meter "talk-in", check over applications, pass out and collect exams, etc. Administering exams is not a "royal priesthood" in which only certified Extras can participate. We want others to be involved as well.

People who can help out with the exam effort are encouraged to please contact Tom Burton, KX1H (235-6353) or myself (533-6822). Thanks!

Hamnews

Over 400 ARRL Extra Class certificates have been issued. If you have an Extra Class license, and would like a certificate that attests to your achievement, send \$3.00 and a photocopy of your Extra Class license to the ARRL HQ Awards Branch, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111.

ARRL Letter, March 14, 1986

The ARRL has petitioned the FCC to reconsider the part of its Report and Order in Docket 85-105 which stipulates that "no Amateur station may be operated under automatic control while transmitting third-party traffic".

The League stated that "technology has overtaken some aspects of...the Commission's Rules, particularly in regard to automatic control" and pointed out that most digital communications use speeds of at least 1200 bits per second, which translates to about 1400 wpm. Thus, it would be impossible for a control operator using a video display terminal or a printer to carefully monitor the communications, assuming an average reading speed of 300 wpm.

Furthermore, the commission allows much higher speeds above 50 MHz, which would be as high as the equivalent of 67,200 wpm! The ARRL points out that,

to be in full compliance with the Commission's rules, a control operator would have to not only give full time and attention to monitoring, but would have to slow the network down to his or her reading speed. The League believes that there must be some safeguards against unsupervised third party traffic, but that such traffic should be controlled at the point of its introduction into a packet network, not at its subsequent repeated automatic relays throughout the network. The benefit of having a high-speed packet-radio network with the capacity of handling major emergencies far outweighs the risks of unsupervised network use by unlicensed persons.

The petition was prompted by the ARRL Board of Directors who unanimously directed ARRL President Larry Price, W4RA, to "take such action as may be necessary and appropriate" to cause the FCC to correct its restrictive and crippling effect on the development of packet radio and packet-radio communications.

ARRL Letter, February 27, 1986

Audio frequency-modulated carrier wave transmissions will soon be legal for use in identifying 10 meter FM repeater stations. The FCC released a Report and Order on February 19 clearing the way for the legal use of MCW to identify repeater stations operating between 29.5 and 29.7 MHz. The FCC order still precludes the use of MCW in other portions of the 10 meter band. The rule is effective April 19.

Westlink Report, March 7, 1986

Amateur Radio may be returning to space aboard the newly launched Soviet space station named "Mir". It was successfully placed into earth orbit on February 19. The name Mir means "world" or "peace." Word that Amateur Radio is included in the planned use of Mir came by way of AMSAT. According to President Vern Riportella, WA2LQQ, AMSAT has learned that there will be at least two types of Amateur Radio operations associated with Mir.

"The first is the likely deployment of a small satellite called Iskra-4," said Riportella, adding that "if it's deployed in a manner similar to the previous Iskras, it will be literally [a case of] open the hatch and throw it out the door. Iskra satellites have contained Amateur Radio equipment in the past, and we think that this will be the case with Iskra-4. That should happen within the next several weeks after the first crew of Mir is launched...."

In addition to forming a platform for the launch of Iskra-4 and other Iskra series satellites that may follow, Riportella indicates that manned "ham in space" operation from Mir is likely as well: "Several of the Cosmonauts are licensed Amateurs and there is speculation that during the long life expectancy of Mir, Amateur Radio operation on a recreational basis is a distinct possibility. In fact, we are expecting some [official] word on that." It is not known if Amateur gear was an integral part of the Mir Space Station, or if it will be carried to it at a later date. WA2LQQ did not speculate on what bands or modes might be used. He did note that Mir is the successor to the Salyut-7 space station, even though Salyut-7 was far from a dead entity. He had heard on February 20 that the Russians may make an attempt to dock the Salyut-7 with Mir and either recondition it or make it a part of the overall Mir effort. Unlike Salyut-7, the Mir Space Station is expected to be permanently manned and will have various scientific labs associated with it.

Westlink Report, March 7, 1986

The Dayton Amateur Radio Association will award two \$1000 scholarships to licensed Amateurs graduating from high school in 1986. Please make this known to any Amateurs in your area who may qualify. For further information and application forms, write DARA, P.O. Box 44, Dayton, Ohio 45401. Attn: Scholarship Committee.

ARNIE ADELMAN, 11 WALNUT ST., BERLIN, MA 01503
 MIKE ADLERSTEIN, 24 BOBOLINK ROAD, WELLESLEY, MA 02181
 NELS ANDERSON, 92 BISHOP DRIVE, FRAMINGHAM, MA 01701
 JOHN H. ANTES, 11 OLD FARM CIRCLE, WAYLAND, MA 01778
 ALLAN BACON, 73 SCHOOL STREET, HINGHAM, MA 02043
 WILLIAM BAKER, 34 CLIFFORD ROAD, SOUTHBORO, MA 01772
 RITA A. BAKER, 34 CLIFFORD ROAD, SOUTHBORO, MA 01772
 RICHARD BLAHA, 2 HARWOOD CIRCLE, NATICK, MA 01760
 DWIGHT BLAHA, 2 HARWOOD CIRCLE, NATICK, MA 01760
 PETER M. BRADLEY, 5 GRANGER ROAD, WESTBORO, MA 01581
 DENNIS J. BREVIK, 250 MILLHAM STREET, MARLBORO, MA 01752
 WARREN BREWSTER, 1 KEANE TERRACE, NATICK, MA 01760
 THOMAS M. BURTON, 61 WHITTIER ROAD, WELLESLEY, MA 02181
 BRIAN CARAMANICA, 80 FISKE AVENUE, WALTHAM, MA 02154
 ROBERT G. CHISHOLM, 38 GLEN STREET, NATICK, MA 01760
 WING S. CHOY, 197 CHISWICK ROAD, BRIGHTON, MA 02135
 MORTON D. COHAN, 16 ORIOLE ROAD, MEDFIELD, MA 02052
 ROY CROSSMAN, 9 LEIGHTON STREET, NATICK, MA 01760
 VALENTINE J. DESCAMPS, 20 SHAW ROAD, WELLESLEY, MA 02181
 BOB DOWNER, 99 PHILIP STREET, MEDFIELD, MA 02052
 BOB DRAPEAU, 39 STEVEN ROAD, BELLINGHAM, MA 02019
 JON FREEMAN, 95 AUDUBON ROAD, APT. 602, WAKEFIELD, MA 01880
 WILLIAM FURBISH, 20 LAKEVIEW AVENUE, WALTHAM, MA 02154
 EDWARD F. GALLAGHER, 87 BEAUFORT AVENUE, NEEDHAM, MA 02192
 GEORGE J. GOLDIN, 14 LLEWELLYN ROAD, WEST NEWTON, MA 02165
 DAVID J. GOLDMAN, 26 PRISCILLA CIRCLE, WELLESLEY, MA 02181
 ALBERT GRAF, 391 WORCESTER ROAD, WELLESLEY, MA 02181
 JOSEPH GREEN, P.O. BOX 401, GREAT NECK, NY 11022
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 LAURA HANLON, 49 VINE STREET, WRENTHAM, MA 02093
 SALLY HANLON, 49 VINE STREET, WRENTHAM, MA 02093
 JIM HATHERLEY, 46 HOBSON STREET, BRIGHTON, MA 02135
 MARC HEBERT, 11 REDFIELD CIRCLE, DERRY, NH 03038
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 MADELINE HEINE, 449 WORCESTER STREET, WELLESLEY, MA 02181
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 KEVIN KELLY, P.O. BOX 308, CHARLESTOWN, MA 02129
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 RICHARD WEISSEL, 39 MAC ARTHUR ROAD, NATICK, MA 01760
 MIKE WEISSEL, 39 MAC ARTHUR ROAD, NATICK, MA 01760
 GARY WEISSEL, 39 MAC ARTHUR ROAD, NATICK, MA 01760
 VIRGINIA F. WILLIAMS, 258 SUDBURY STREET, MARLBORO, MA 01752
 DWIGHT H. WILLIAMS, 258 SUDBURY STREET, MARLBORO, MA 01752

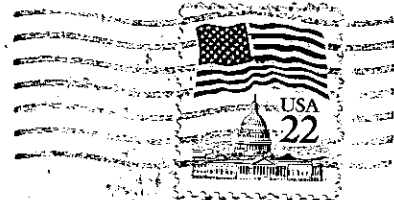
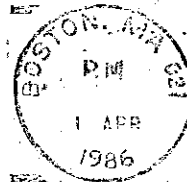
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 KAIHYZ 254-4675
 A KAIU 359-7979
 653-2893
 N KAIHEM
 T NICOY 359-5023
 E KTIK 883-1132
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 A WAIMWF 444-2835
 G KIPTY 237-9289
 G WBICFC 305-499-6397
 E WBIECK 244-3818
 WA2EHV 235-3303
 N 655-8775
 E AKII 235-6371
 A WILMU 527-4269
 T WBIBUM 332-6091
 N WBIBRW
 NIDIZ 444-5317
 G NIDFP 894-3102
 T KAILDV 965-7205
 A WIMIC 449-1936
 A VE3CGL 803-233-0290
 T WAIZLQ 837-6423
 G KAIYR
 G NICZT 444-0272
 N KAIKLP 332-0215
 N WBIBUN 244-3239
 T WIEGE 533-7915
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